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in the ratios in 1890, especially of the insane. It must further be said that Dr. Billings, for the first time in the history of the census, has attempted to enumerate all the deaf, including those deaf in one ear, or merely hard of hearing, and not included in the special class technically described as 'deaf mutes,' or the 'deaf and dumb.' He has also attempted to enumerate all the blind, including those blind in one eye, but able to see with the other. In the tables here given the blind in one eye and the deaf only, who are not deaf-mutes, are not included. But evidently the change in the method of enumeration may account for a part of the difference in ratio is between the census of 1880 and that of 1890.

"The census of paupers in 1880 and 1890 was confined to paupers in almshouses, and the figures showing the number 'outdoor' paupers returned are not included in the tables. Prior to 1880 it is obvious from inspection that the distinction was not made, and that the figures for previous years are based on no exact definition of the word 'pauper.' Hence, they are practically of no value whatever.

"Neither the paupers nor the prisoners were counted, before 1880, on any proper system, almshouse by almshouse, and prison by prison. It is well known that the figures are a guess, and a very bad guess at that. The figures of 1880 and 1890 are worthy of confidence."

*Eleventh Biennial Report of the Michigan State Board of Corrections and Charities, 1891-92.* Lansing, 1893. Pp. 169.

There are few general and comparative tables in this report. The aggregate daily average of inmates during the last year in penal institutions was 1179, an increase of only 15 as compared with five years ago. On the other hand, the Detroit House of Correction has an increase in monthly average of over 294. The total number of insane in state charitable institutions in 1892 was 3468, as compared with 2576 in 1887.

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#### THE CIVIL SERVICE OF BUENOS AYRES.

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*Estudio Estadístico del Presupuesto Nacional seguido de un Proyecto de Reforma del Mismo, etc.* By Francisco Latzina. 1893. Pp. 75. Tables.

In the introduction to this work the author states that since the establishment of the Republic the statutory law has become, little by little,

in the course of many years, a museum of incongruities. There does not exist any systematic method of specifying by names the different grades among the civil employes, or of giving equal salaries to officials nominally in the same class. In some cases, for example, in a single department, employes of the third class earn more than those of the first class.

This inquiry is intended to initiate a reform in the civil service, especially in this respect. As it is necessary to make an exposition of the actual state of affairs as a preliminary to proposing reform, there are given two tables showing, first, the different salaries in order of amount, and the various positions which receive the same salary; second, the various grades and classes of offices, and the inconsistent arrangement of salaries that exists. After this a series of tables sets forth the plan of reform proposed, with a systematic classification of offices in the different departments, and a logical method of determining compensations. There is also given a table of the estimate of expenses for 1892. This goes to some length, and to many of the more minute details, but does not attempt to give the resulting totals.

After these tables are the proposed laws regarding the civil service. Under four heads these provide for the reforms already mentioned; they also state qualifications necessary for public servants, as to examinations, *et cetera*, and provide for pensions for the superannuated and for the widows and children of public employes.

The relative importance of certain positions as considered in this South American state, shown by their respective salaries, is noteworthy. For instance, the salary of an accountant ranges from \$60 to \$600; that of a teacher or professor, from \$31 to \$200. The amounts of almost all the salaries are ridiculously small; for the cost of living is not very much less than here in the United States, and consequently the actual value of the nominal salary is not so great as here. Salaries often go unpaid for long periods,—just before revolutions, for instance. It may be true that the higher officials have “perquisites” to reinforce their salaries, but how can telegraph operators maintain themselves on from \$50 to \$100 a year? A gentleman, Mr. Johann Meyer, who has visited Buenos Ayres, says that even the humblest employes dress magnificently, and are very proud of their “governmental” office. Their relatives perhaps help support them for the social prestige the connection brings, and the official satisfies himself as to the rest with the honor.

The study as a whole is of decided interest, and shows a painstaking, complete, and minute investigation on the part of the author and compiler.

L. P. LANE.

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ASSISTED EMIGRATION.

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*Del Patronato degli Emigranti in Italia e all' Estero.* By Dr. Egisto Rossi. Relazione al Primo Congresso Geographico Italiano, Genoa, 1892. Rome, 1893. Pp. 93.

This paper gives a history of the development of the societies which have sprung up in every new country on the globe, to assist ignorant emigrants to start in life under the changed conditions. In the United States the Germans have been foremost in this direction, and have done a good work for their countrymen in many ways. Nearly all the European colonies in New York have organized in some way to protect and encourage those who come to the United States. They have built hospitals, and they dispense much money in charity; they take charge of savings, and find employment for those in search of work; they give legal counsel, purchase tickets, and even acquire homesteads; in short, they do everything in their power to make it easy for the ignorant and helpless to begin life anew. And this activity, while most pronounced in the great port of entry in the United States, is manifested in every place where immigration is present.

The great defect in the organization of the Italian societies is the lack of coöperation in the home country. The English government has offered a good example in this respect, and Sig. Rossi has shown most admirably the proper way to organize in Italy in order to secure the same result. The monograph contains many interesting statistics of the work done by these various societies, and is an eloquent plea for an extension of the work in Italy. It is, however, of no particular importance for American readers, except in so far as it shows the extent to which our seaports are flooded by a horde of people who come here totally ignorant of their own interests, and often almost penniless. In proportion as the figures show the need of charity among these people, so does it become more evident that the one problem from the American standpoint is to sift out this indigent and ignorant element before it leaves the shores of Europe. And here